उपसभापतिः आप मेरी आज्ञा से खड़े हुआ करें।...(**व्यवधान**)... चतुर्वेदी जी, आपको खड़े होने के लिए आज्ञा चाहिए, बैठने के लिए चेयर की आज्ञा की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है।

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदीः हमारी संस्कृति में तो यही है कि मैं आपकी आज्ञा लेकर ही बैठूं।

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, *it is very difficult to restrain him.*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Madam, I am sure, Mr. Chaturvedi knows very well that there were certain special considerations or factors — he may not agree with them, it is a different matter — which led to a decision being taken that the law and order in Delhi should not be handedover to the Delhi Government but that it should be kept in the control of the Centre and we have no reason, at present, to change that decision.

उपसभापतिः श्री टी॰ एन॰ चतुर्वेदी जी, अब आप मेरी आज्ञा से सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदीः बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस॰ बी॰ चव्हाणः ये खड़े रहते हैं...

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदीः चव्हाण साहब मेरे मंत्री रहे हैं। मैं उनकी आज्ञा से वहां पर खड़ा रहता था और उनकी आज्ञा से ही बैठता था।..

श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्देः पहले सामने खड़े रहते थे अब पीछे खड़े हैं।

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदीः जो सरकारी अफसर होते हैं, उनकी यह आदत हो जाती है। आप भी पीछे बैठे हैं, पुलिस में रहे हैं।

उपसभापति महोदया, मैं बहुत गम्भीरता से गृह मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं जो उन्होंने कहा है उसी में इस प्रश्न का, ईश दत्त यादव जी के प्रश्न का क्या औचित्य है वह अपने में स्पष्ट है। उन्होंने अपने दिल की भावना भी अपने शब्दों में, अपने ढंग से व्यक्त कर दी है। मैं ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि यह मामला निलम्बित है। एक दफा पुलिस की हड़ताल दिल्ली में हुई थी और उसके बाद जस्टिस खोसला का एक कमीशन बैठा था और यह मामला तब से है। इसलिए मैं समझता हूं कि यह आवश्यक है और कोर्ट के सामने यह मामला चला गया है। इसीलिए वह किसी तरह से कोर्ट की अवमानना का सवाल नहीं है। यदि आप चाहते हैं तो इसको फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री और होम मिनिस्ट्री का मामला न बना करके इसको आप केबिनेट के स्तर पर कलेक्टिव रेसपांसिब्लिटी के अन्तर्गत, यह देखते हुए कि इस मामले की गम्भीरता कितनी है, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए कुछ करने का प्रयत्न करें? यही मेरा आपसे प्रश्न है और निवेदन है।

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्तः महोदया, मैंने अभी कहा था कि यह सीरियस मामला है और इस पर हम काफी गम्भीरता से विचार कर रहे हैं और करेंगे।

उपसभापतिः अब इस पर तो काफी सवाल-जवाब हो गये हैं। इसके अलावा और कोई प्रश्न नहीं है।

Question number 102 — the hon. Member absent.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Madam, I would like the hon. Minister should reply to this question.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, in your own discretion, kindly allow this question to be answered by the hon. Minister.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member is not there.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: In the absence of a Member, the Chair has got the discretion to allow the Minister to answer...*(Interruptions)*... Madam, knowing the importance of the question, kindly allow the hon. Minister to answer. The question is about misutilisation of funds allocated for anti-poverty programmes...*(Interruptions)*...

विभिन्न राज्यों में ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार हेतु निर्दिष्ट धनराशि को अन्यत्र व्यय किया जाना

*102. **श्री राम जेठमलानीः** क्या **ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार को गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान विभिन्न राज्यों के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के

अवसर उपलब्ध कराने संबंधी योजनाओं को क्रियान्वित करने हेतु निर्दिष्ट धनराशि को अन्य मदों पर व्यय करने के संबंध में समाचार प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार को उक्त अवधि के दौरान कौन-कौन से राज्यों में उपरोक्त अनियमितताओं के समाचार प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(ग) प्रत्येक राज्य में कितनी-कितनी धनराशि का दुरुपयोग किया गया है और सरकार द्वारा प्रत्येक मामले में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री (श्री किंजरापू येरन्नायडु): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की जवाहर रोजगार योजना पर 1995 की रिपोर्ट संख्या 2 तथा सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना पर 1997 की रिपोर्ट संख्या 3 में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ विभिन्न राज्यों में निधियों के अपवर्तन और दुरुपयोग की ओर संकेत किया गया है। अपवर्तन और दुरुपयोग का राज्यवार विवरण क्रमशः विवरण-1 और 2 में दिया गया है **(नीचे देखिए)**।

संसदीय लोक लेखा समिति ने नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की जवाहर रोजगार योजना पर 1995 की रिपोर्ट संख्या 2 और सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना पर 1997 की रिपोर्ट संख्या 3 को विस्तृत जांच के लिए चुना है। लोक लेखा समिति ने आंध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र, तमिलनाडु, उड़ीसा, केरल, कर्नाटक, उत्तर प्रदेश, राजस्थान और पश्चिम बंगाल का दौरा पहले ही कर लिया है।

विवरण-1

(लाख रुपए में)

ग्रामीण रोजगार योजनाओं के अंतर्गत निधियों का अपवर्तन

क्रम संख्या	राज्य	जवाहर रोजगार योजना	सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना
1	2	3	4
1.	आंध्र प्रदेश	1994.17	712.66
2.	अरूणाचल प्रदेश		34.17
3.	असम		
4.	बिहार	3595.53	1995.58
5.	गोवा		
6.	गुजरात	2204.80	896.97
7.	हरियाणा		128.34
8.	हिमाचल प्रदेश		
9.	जम्मू व कश्मीर		160.86
10.	कर्नाटक	668.68	
11.	केरल	6401.08	674.43
12.	मध्य प्रदेश	5102.23	
13.	महाराष्ट्र	275.76	633.41
14.	मणिपुर		79.04
15.	मेघालय		
16.	मिजोरम		533.23
17.	नागालैंड		627.61
18.	उड़ीसा	70.19	0.60
19.	पंजाब		
20.	राजस्थान	553.30	311.47
21.	सिक्किम		4.17
22.	तमिलनाडु	3735.28	64.34
23.	त्रिपुरा		262.58
24.	उत्तर प्रदेश	11513.85	76.41
25.	पश्चिम बंगाल	1341.13	429.63
	कुल	37456.00	7625.50

टिप्पणी: **जवाहर रोजगार योजना** — नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की 1997 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 1993 से 1996 की अवधि के दौरान।

सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना — नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की 1997 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 1993 से 1996 की अवधि के दौरान।

विवरण-2

निधियों का दुरूपयोग

क्रम सं०	राज्य	जवाहर रोजगार योजना	सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना
1.	गुजरात	12.58	7 राज्यों में 3.26
2.	कर्नाटक	21.92	करोड़ रुपए की

1	2	3	4
3.	केरल	4.09	राशि का दुरूपयोग
4.	महाराष्ट्र	74.57	किए जाने की
5.	उड़ीसा	9.57	आंशका है, जिनमें
6.	राजस्थान	2.09-19	मामले शामिल हैं जिसमें से 10
	कुल	124.82	मामले नागालैंड के होने की सूचना मिली है। जहां कुल 1.65 करोड़ रुपए के दुरूपयोग की आशंका है। परंतु नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की रिपोर्ट में अन्य राज्यों के बारे में ब्यौरे प्रस्तुत नहीं किए गए हैं।

टिप्पणी:

जवाहर रोजगार योजना: नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की 1995 की रिपोर्ट संख्या 2 के अनुसार

सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना: नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक की 1997 की रिपोर्ट संख्या 3 के अनुसार

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. If a Member puts a question and it is ballotted, the Member should have the responsibility to come ask it in the House....*(Interruptions)*...

एक मिनट जरा। आप मेरे अधिकार का उल्लंघन न करिए।

When a Minister does not come to the House, you create a great hue and cry. Everybody says that he is not here, he should come and answer, he should apologise. When a Member puts a question and he is not here, what action should one take? So, under the provision I have to mention....*(Interruptions)*...I have allowed it....*(Interruptions)*...Yes. I have allowed it....*(Interruptions)*...

आप सुनिए थोड़ा आला लगाकर सुनिए।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam Deputy Chairman, this is a question regarding misutilization of funds provided by the Central Govenrment to various States for Centrally sponsored schemes. There were reports that in Bihar 37 per cent of the funds had been diverted for other schemes like paying salaries to teachers and Government employees. This funds was meant for anti-poverty programmes. Then, in Andhra Pradesh also there is a report that about 26 per cent of the funds were diverted. It is the C&AG Report which I am referring to the hon. Minister. Likewise, in many other States also the funds have been diverted. These funds were given by the Central Government for bringing the people—who are living below the poverty line—above the poverty-line, for giving them employment opportunities, for providing them jobs by allotting them small shops etc. But, these funds have been spent according to the Budget provisions by the concerned State Govenrments. Madam, the greatest scam in this regard appears to be in the State of West Bengal. According to the report, about Rs. 5,000 crores *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Let him speak ....*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Singla, let the Minister answer, please. You should bear in mind this is not Zero Hour. You are sitting in Question Hour. ....*(Interruptions)*...Mr. Minister , hear the question.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, for the last ten years about Rs. 5,000 crores have been divierted in the from of personal ledger account. The reason given for it is that the funds came in the month of February and therefore, the funds were diverted into the personal ledger account. I have got definite information that these funds have been provided to the CPI(M) cadre, without spending the money for the ...*(Interruptions)*...Madam, this is a very serious scame that has happened in West Bengal. Therefore, I would request the hon.

Minister for Rural Development to clarify about the scame that took place by way of diversion of the funds meant for anti-poverty programmes to the personal ledger account for personal gain I want the Minister to respond to it...*(Interruptions)*...

उप-सभापतिः सवाल हुआ है। उनको सवाल का जवाब चाहिए। आप जवाब देने दीजिए।

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, I do not agree with the views of the hon. Member...*(Interruptions)*... *I say* that the figures of Rs.5,000 crores and Rs.10,000 crores quoted by you are not correct. As far as the State of West Bengal is concerned, two Public Interest Litigations are pending there in the hon. High Court. The High Court has already directed the State Govenrment to appoint an Inquiry Officer... *(Interruptions)*... Therefore, the matter is *sub judice*. Regarding....*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Litigation pending in the court is different. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: They have squandered the money.
(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, the fodder scam case is pending in the Court. We discuss. Laloo Prasad Yadav's case is pending in the court. We discuss...*(Interruptions)*...Several matters are pending in the court. Yet we discuss them here.*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: The Govenrment cannot take umbrage under this plea. *(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, if the matter was *sub judice*, why did your Ministry accept the question?

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Before that, this question has been put by the hon. Member. Long back. It is not... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: This is a recent question.*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Dr. Biplab Dasgupta, you need not prompt the Minister. He is capable.
(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, I had put a specific question to the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you, please sit down. Do you want him to answer, or, you do not want him to answer? Please sit down...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, this is question regarding diversion of funds in general: not in regard to a particular State. This was not the question raised by the hon. Member *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: There is also a reference to West Bengal here. *(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, please. We have some guests. Please keep quiet. You have some quests in the Special Box. We have, seated in the Special Box, a delegation of Members of Parliament from the kyrgz Republic. We have to welcome them.

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members: We have with us, seated in the Special Box, members of a Parliamentary Delegation from the Kyrgyz Republic, currently on a visit to our country, under the distinguished leadership of His Excellency, Mr. U. M. Mukambaev, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Kyrgyz Republic.

On behalf of the Members of the House and on my own behalf, I take pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to the leader and other members of the

delegation and wishing our distinguished guests an enjoyable and fruitful stay in our country. We hope that during their stay here, they would be able to see and learn more about our parliamentary system, our country and our people, and that their visit to this country will further strengthen the friendly bonds that exist between India and the kyrgyz Republic. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Parliment and the friendly people of the Kyrgyz Republic.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
Contd.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please listen to the answer in peace.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, in the statement laid on the Table of the House, details have been regarding the diversion of funds, regarding the misutilisation of funds, by different States. This is based on the CAG reports. This is the preliminary stage. The CAG had conducted two rounds of audit regarding the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, and one round of audit regarding the Employment Assurance Scheme. The hon. Member had put the question seeking information for the last three years. The infomation given is based on the CAG Report No. 2 of 1995 in regard to the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, and Report No.3 1997 in regard to the Employment Assurance Scheme. All the details have been given regarding which States had diverted the funds, what amount they had diverted, what amount they had misappropriated.

These reports were taken up for examination by the Public Accounts Committee. The Public Accounts Committee had prepared a questionnaire and sought replies from the Ministry. The Ministry, in turn, asked the State Government. After getting the information, the PAC will examine it. It will take oral evidence and everything else...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I don't want to know the procedure, Mr. Minister.

Madam, the Minister is not answering my straight question. My straight question is particularly about West Bengal. I do not want to know the procedure. I submitted that Rs.5,000 crores had been misappropriated from the JRY scheme...*(Interruptions)*...

I want the hon. Minister to answer my supplementary on West Bengal. He is not answering that....*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I do not understand what is happening. Please sit down. Mr. Narayanasamy, please sit down. Please sit down....*(Interruptions)*...

Mr. Singla, will you please keep quiet for a minute?

Mr. Minister, narrating the procedure is not necessary. You reply to the specific question. Okay? Whatever or whichever procedures are there, the procedures which you are referring to, are not new. They are the norms which have been laid down and which are followed by every State Government.

Now, the specific question is: has such a thing happened or not? You can say "yes" or "no", whatever your information is. We do not have much time in the House. So, please be specific. I have the names of a number of Members who want to put supplementaries. Okay? Please.

I would like Members to listen to him properly because he is the person who has the correct information. So, he should let the House know what is right and what is wrong.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: The hon. Members are quoting Rs. 5,000 crores, Rs. 6,000 crores and Rs. 10,000 crores, like that. They are not correct. Already the CAG has enquired into it in detail.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What is the correct figure?

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: कितने हजार करोड़ है वह बताइए ...(व्यवधान)

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: मंत्री जी सही फिगर बता दें तो मामला खत्म हो जाएगा।

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Don't cover up the scam. The Government is covering up the scam. I know that the scam is there. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, they are not listening to me. How can I answer? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Madam, the Government cannot be allowed to cover up the scam like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Who are you to say that?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If Members are not going to listen ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Singla, sit down.

If you are not going to behave properly, I will adjourn the House. If any Member speaks without my permission, I will either name him or move a motion in the House because this is Question Hour. It may hurt somebody, and it may not hurt somebody else. It is for the Minister to state what is correct.

But, please, Mr. Minister, be specific.

SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN: Madam, he is not being allowed to answer.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am allowing him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN: But those Members are not allowing him to speak.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. But you people also allow your Minister to answer. You are shouting much more than others.

SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You do not let him speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

Keep quiet, please. Let him answer it. I can handle others.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: We are giving funds to the District Rural Development Agencies through the State Governments. They are under the control and supervision of the State Governments. The District Rural Development Agencies, in turn, are allotting funds to the Gram Panchayats and Zilla Parishads. Every year, the District Rural Development Agencies check the accounts and everything else through their own auditors. Any lapses ...*(Interruptions)*

Yes, I will answer.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him speak. You put a supplementary.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, the points raised by hon. Members regarding the diversions amouting the hundreds of crores of rupees in Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal are not correct. The C.A.G. Report on Andhra Pradesh says that there was a diversion to the tune of Rs. 19 crores from the Employment Assurance Scheme. *(Interruptions)* This is the figure given by the C.A.G. The P.A.C. also raised a question on this and the Andhra Pradesh Government has already replied. This is not a new procedure. For so many years this procedure is being followed. The P.A.C. is the correct agency. If any diversion has taken place or if some small mistake has occurred, then the State Government accepts the verdict of the P.A.C. This happens in every department. Their point on diversion of funds is not correct. Even in West Bengal and in other States 30 per cent diversion of funds is towards disbursement of salary. That has come to my notice ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, the hon. Minister is not correct. This is the C.A.G. Report. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Madam, I would like to know from the hon. Minister to kindly reply to the question, because these are the figures given by the Government and diversion is to the tune of Rs. 374 crores in J.R.Y. and of the order of Rs. 76 crores in E.A.S. Since these figures have baen given by the Government, is it the contention of the hon. Minister that the C.A.G., before submitting the Report, did not give an opportunity to the State Government to explain their position? If that be the case, then certainly the reply itself is wrong. Normally the practice is that before the C.A.G. prepares the report, they give an opportunity to the State Governments. Thereafter the C.A.G. prepares its report. You say it is the C.A.G. figure, which you are utilising. My point is that the State Governments cannot possibly divert the amount to this extent. Every time we have been asking the hon. Ministers in different Ministries and they have been evading the questions. Now, these are the figures which have come to us. Since these amounts have been diverted by some of the Ministries, even if we suppose they were to reply, I know they cannot reply. But, still I would accept the position taken by the hon. Minister. My request to him will be that if it is diversion of funds, the Central Government should ask for these funds to be returned to the Government of India. The State Governments have no business to utilise such amounts. This has been going on, not for one year, but for years together and you are trying to shield all the State Governments by saying that this is a State subject and we cannot possibly force anything. But, these are funds which are given not by anyone else, but by the Government. So, it becomes your duty to deduct this amount from out of the Central assistance, which is given to every State Government. Tell them that they are not entitled to utilising the amount for any other purpose. Diversion of funds is not called for. Misappropriation is a much serious matter. C.A.G. himself is saying that there is a misappropriation. And, in spite of misappropriations, if the Government of India is not going to take any action on this, then, of course, it is a very serious matter. I am sure, we require a half-an-hour discussion on this. Otherwise, we will have to raise a Short Duration Discussion on this issue. We cannot keep quiet on a matter, which has been brought to the notice of the House.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: I support Mr. Chavan's contention.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, I too agree with the hon. Member. If we are not satisfied or if we notice a mistake has been done by the State Government, we do not release the next instalment of entitlement to the States. That is our power. ...*(Interruptions)*... You hear me first. Whatever lapses have been identified by the C&AG, we have referred them to the State Governments. For example, the C&AG has brought to our notice so many things, we have referred them to the State Governments. I understand that the State Governments have also initiated action against erring officers. They have suspended some officers. They have filed charge-sheets against some officers. So many things are being done by the State Governments. For example, the C&AG had conducted an audit regarding the RLEGP and NREP in the year 1989. The PAC has also given some conclusions. Basing on those conclusions, the Government of India pursued the matter with the State Governments to recoup the funds. If the PAC comes to a conclusion that these are the people who have misutilised the funds, misappropriated the funds, diverted the funds and when they give a final decision, basing on this we will stop giving funds. We will get the states to

recoup the funds. That is the procedure going on in the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, the Comptroller and Auditor General is the supreme authority. They will finalise everything. Basing on that we will recoup the funds from the State Government. If there is any misappropriation of funds, the State Government would file charge-sheets, initiate action against those officers. If any lapse is brought to our notice, we are stopping the second instalment. We are getting the States to recoup the funds. Only when they furnish us the utilisation certificate and auditor's report then we are releasing the second instalment. Since a long time this procedure has been going on. This procedure has not been introduced recently. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramachandra Reddy. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called the name of the next Member. Let him put his question. Let the answer come. I am going according to the list I have received. I don't want to misappropriate the time of the House. I want to go according to the list which is before me.

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Madam Deputy Chairman, according to the reply given by the hon. Minister, a sum of Rs. 19.95 crores has been diverted from the JRY to other scheme in Andhra Pradesh. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that funds misutilised in 1989-1994 occurred during the period of the Congress regime headed by three Congress Chief Ministers. Is it a fact? Let the Minister tell me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, I have already given the information for the period 1989—1994, regarding diversion of funds from the JRY scheme, the C&AG has given its report for the period 1993—96 on EAS. These things have taken place in the previous years, whichever may be the Government. The procedure of the Government has been laid down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Is it the same in West Bengal? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Madam, whether the funds have been diverted or misappropriated during the previous Government or whatever it may be, we will get the states to recoup everything based on the final conclusions of the PAC. A small error did happen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Small error? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Madam, the Minister is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: I will give you one example. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him answer.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: I will give you one example. Regarding Gujarat, the C&AG's observation was during the period 1993—96 a sum of Rs. 8 crores was utilised ...*(Interruptions)*... Just wait.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Why have you chosen Gujarat?

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: I will come to the States one by one.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Why not West Bengal? The C&AG's report is there. ...*(Interruptions)*... Are you a Minister? Let him reply.

There has been the biggest scam in West Bengal. Why don't you answer the question about the PLA which Mr. Narayanasamy has put?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*. Mr. Biplab Dasgupta, I think it is still the Minister who is to answer. *(Interruption)*. Just one minute. He is the Minister to answer. You are not a Minister yet. When you become, I will definitely identify you.

Now let him answser. *(Interruption)*. He is also not a Minister. But he is only questioning. He is not answering.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Yours is a supporting party. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SURENDER KUMAR SINGLA: That is why he is covering it up. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: This all shadow-boxing.

SHRI V. NARAYANASWAMY: It is not shadow-boxing. It is real boxing.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: You withdraw the support if you are honest about it.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, should the Question Hour be interrupted like this? *(Interruptions)*. Should the Question Hour be allowed to be interrupted like this?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are also interrupting. Please sit down.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: I am not shielding any State. I am giving the case of Gujarat just as an example. *(Interruptions)*. Next I will come to West Bengal.

During the period 1993—96, a sum of Rs. 8 crores was utilised by all implementing agencies for repairs of flood-damaged existing roads, irrigation works and other assets of the panchayats. This is the observation made by the audit.

श्री जनार्दन यादव: यह 1997 चल रहा है, 1997 तक बताइए न। ,.(व्यवधान)..

SHRI K YERRAN NAIDU: The Comptroller and Auditor-General is here. Mr. Chaturvedi is here. He knows everything. He kept silence. What is the procedure? He knows. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Madam, I am not a Minister. I am also an 'ex'. Like the Attorney-General, the CAG cannot come here. That is the whole trouble.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have very little time, please. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Let Mr. Salve move a Constitutional amendment.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Hon. Member Shri Narayanasamy has raised a question regarding the PLA of West Bengal. I will give the figures. *(Interruptions)*. You please hear me first.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: ...Tell us about the siphoning off also. *(Interruptions)*.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Singla, do you listen to me? What action should I take against you?

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Okay, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is a certain decorum in the House.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Okay, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you like, I can ask you to come and sit over here and let the Minister answer. Please do not be so impatient about it. Let him speak. If you stop him, then the Question Hour will be over. I suppose you do not want the answer.

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Regarding the West Bengal Government, this is the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. For the year ending 31.3.1996, No. 3 Civil and No. 4 Civil, in respect of West Bengal. They have raised a number of points regarding the utilisation of the JRY and EAS funds, about the misappropriation and misutilisation. Regarding the JRY funds, to the tune of Rs. 2.76 crores amounts were diverted for purposes other than those specified in the JRY guidelines. Only Rs. 2.76 crores. The Auditor-General of West Bengal has identified. That is placed on the Table of the Legislature. After that, these things came in the Press. Meanwhile, two public

interest litigations were filed before the High Court. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: What is the observation of the Auditor-General? Cover the observation also. *(Interruptions)*.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: You are referring only to one year. *(Interruptions)*.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish. If you interrupt him, he will never finish. *(Interruptions)*.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह: मैडम, दो-तीन आदमियों को ही मौका दिया जा रहा है बोलने का, हम भी बोलना चाहते हैं।

उपसभापति: किसी को मौका नहीं दिया जा रहा है, सब लोग बिना मौके के ही बोल रहे हैं। मौका सिर्फ मंत्री जी को दिया जा रहा है, जिनको जवाब देने का अधिकार है। ,.(व्यवधान)..

SHRI K YERRAN NAIDU: That is the Public Ledger Account of West Bengal. Not only West Bengal but so many States are maintaining like that only basing on the Local Gram Panchayat Act. There is a provision in that Act. Thereby funds accrue from the State or the Centre and in turn will go to the local fund amount.

From the Local Fund Amount, it is given to the Gram Panchayats, the Intermediate Panchayats and so on. Our area officers have also visited West Bengal so many times. They had observed that there was no question of diversion of funds. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, I seek your protection. *(Interruptions)* I would like to know as to what were the observations of the CAG. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: I am giving figures in brief. The matter is pending on the High Court. So, the matter is *sub judice*.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: No, no. There is no question of the matter being *sub judice*.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, there is a ruling by the Chair. So, he has to answer our question. There are so many cases pending in courts which we are discussing. The hon. Minister cannot seek protection in the name of cases pending in court. You inform us about the observations of the CAG. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: I am coming to the CAG's observations. JRY funds aggregating Rs. 2.54 crores were diverted and deposited in the account of the State Public Works Department, then funds worth Rs. 0.9 crore were deposited in the account of the West Bengal State Electricity Board. So, small diversions were made by them. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, Rs. 374 crores diversion of funds under the JRY is only up to March 1994. I want to know as to when it came to the notice of the Government, leave aside the report, you must have received some information. What is the mechanism in the Ministry to take appropriate action on the diversion of funds? What action was taken for diversion of funds up to 1994? What is the quantum of diversion of funds after 1994 which your Ministry has?

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: There is a mechanism in our Ministry according to which in every State, there are Vigilance Committees, State—level Review Committees, District-level Vigilance Committees, Block-level Vigilance Committees and so on. In each DRDA, they have separate chartered accountants. On the basis of the money we are releasing to various districts, every year local auditors are engaged by the DRDA, who are registered under the Societies Act. They identify the irregularities. If they do so, then we take action to recover the amount. But if there is any basic diversion which has been identified

by the CAG, then the Public Accounts Committee looks after that. That is the thing.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: My question is: "What has been the diversion of funds during the last three years, from 1994 to 1997"?

SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: The Centrally-sponsored schemes are based on the share between the Central Government and the State Governments. The share of the Central Government is 80 per cent. The States are giving 20 per cent. *(Interruptions)* But everything is being looked after by the State Governments. There is no separate machinery for the Central Government. We have full faith in the State Government and we are releasing funds accordingly. There are State-level Committees and District level Committees. We are directly releasing funds to the Gram Panchayats, Local Bodies, Zila Parishads and Mandal Parishads. They are taking up the schemes. If the CAG has pointed out any irregularity in those reports, we place the same before the Public Accounts Committee. After the Public Accounts Committee has taken a final decision in the matter, a chargesheet is given to the individual concerned. Everything is going on for the last so many years. This is the routine procedure.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Has this been going on?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Revival of Sick Textile Units in Maharashtra

*103. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently reviewed the action plan on implementation of revival of sick textile units in Maharashtra as formulated by BIFR;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for slow implementation of the plan; and

(d) the details of fresh steps taken during 1997-98 and financial assistance provided?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (b) On the recommendations of the Operating Agency (IDBI), the BIFR published draft rehabilitation scheme for the mills under NTC(MN) Ltd. and NTC(SM) Ltd. and the cost of these schemes is Rs. 366.93 crores and Rs. 393.72 crores, respectively. The BIFR has published these schemes, seeking certain reliefs and concessions from the NTC(H&C.)Ltd., Central Govt. etc. The funds for these rehabilitation schemes have to be raised mostly from sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC mills. The clearance from State Government is compulsory for sale of surplus lands of NTC Mills in Mumbai. The State Govt. of Maharashtra did not give the clearance till date for sale of surplus lands of the Mumbai Mills, from where more than 80% of the sale proceeds are estimated. Besides the BIFR has not yet approved the package. Therefore, the Turn Around Plan could not be taken up till date. In this background, the NTC has reviewed the unit-wise viability keeping in view the concessions agreed to by the Government in 1995 and the concept of net worth becoming positive. The report of the NTC is presently under consideration of the Government. In the meanwhile, Government is providing budgetary support to NTC to meet their shortfall in payment of salaries, wages and bonus.